

United States Government

Department of Energy  
Bonneville Power Administration

# memorandum

DATE: October 7, 2004

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: KEC-4

SUBJECT: Supplement Analysis for the Watershed Management Program EIS (DOE/EIS-0265/SA-186)

TO: Charlie Craig  
Fish and Wildlife Project Manager - KEWU-4

**Proposed Action:** Habitat Projects Lake Roosevelt Tributaries – Roaring Creek Culvert Replacement

**Project No:** 1990-018-00

**Watershed Management Techniques or Actions Addressed Under This Supplement Analysis (See App. A of the Watershed Management Program EIS):** 1.13 Culvert Removal/Replacement to Improve Fish Passage

**Location:** Ferry County, Washington

**Proposed by:** Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and the Colville Confederated Tribes (CCT)

**Description of the Proposed Action:** The Bonneville Power Administration is proposing to fund a fish passage improvement project with the Colville Confederated Tribes on Roaring Creek in Ferry County, Washington. This project will take place completely on Tribal Trust lands. The project includes the removal of an existing perched culvert that is preventing access by fish to habitat in Roaring Creek, a tributary to the West Fork of the San Poil River. The current culvert is perched approximately 6-feet. The culvert has greatly impaired use of in-channel habitat in the lower portions of the creek, affecting its ability to support spawning and rearing of adfluvial rainbow trout in the San Poil River system.

The culvert will be removed and the crossing lowered to the existing channel elevation. An oversized 12-foot by 30-foot round culvert will be installed and rock step pool structures will be placed within the new culvert to bring it gradually up in elevation to match the upstream slope and structure. The culvert will be buried at the upstream end to maintain a slope of no more than 2% within the structure. No new infrastructure or roads will be constructed; the road at the culvert will be regraded when the culvert replacement is completed. There will be minimal disturbance to the riparian zone and any disturbed areas will be seeded with a native mix. Work will take place in the dry so there is no concern for water diversion around the work site or sediment reduction curtains.

**Analysis:** The NEPA compliance checklist for this project was completed by Sheri Sears with the Colville Confederated Tribes (September 16, 2004) and meets the standards and guidelines for the Watershed Management Program Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Record of Decision (ROD).

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) listed species that may occur in the general vicinity of the project area are bald eagle and Canada lynx. There are bald eagle nests in the area but they are located several miles from the work site. There is no lynx habitat in close proximity to the work site (approximately 2 miles away) and the work site is too low in elevation to be used by lynx. BPA determined that the project would have no effect on bald eagle or Canada lynx. If a bald eagle or lynx is spotted in the work area during project implementation, work should be temporarily halted until the individual leaves on its own will.

The Colville Confederated Tribe's History and Archaeology Office (THPO) was contacted during the Tribal Integrated Resource Review Process (8/1/04). The THPO was sent a description of the project and asked to provide comments. No comments were received as a result of the Integrated Resource Review Process (personal communication Sheri Sears 10/6/04). Cultural resources are not expected at the work site since the roadbed and culvert already exist and have been disturbed previously. In the unlikely event that archaeological material is encountered during project activities, archaeologists from BPA and the Colville Confederated Tribes should immediately be notified and work halted in the vicinity of the finds until they can be inspected and assessed.

Standard water quality protection procedures and Best Management Practices will be followed during the implementation of the Roaring Creek Culvert Replacement project. No construction is authorized to begin until the proponent has obtained all applicable permits and approvals. The Colville Confederated Tribe will grant permits and approvals for this project since the project is located completely on Tribal lands.

Public involvement has occurred as part of the Roaring Creek Culvert Replacement project. The project has been reviewed by the Colville Confederated Tribe's History and Archaeology Office, Fish and Wildlife Office, Forestry Department, Roads Office, Soils Office, Vegetation Office, Fire Control Office, Range Office, as well as the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The project has also gone through the Tribe's Integrated Resource Review Process.

**Findings:** The project is generally consistent with Section 7.6A.2, 7.6B.3, & 7.8E.1, of the Northwest Power Planning Council's Fish and Wildlife Program. This Supplement Analysis finds 1) that the proposed actions are substantially consistent with the Watershed Management Program EIS (DOE/EIS-0265) and ROD, and, 2) that there are no new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns and bearing on the proposed actions or their impacts. Therefore, no further NEPA documentation is required.

/s/ Shannon Stewart 10-7-04  
Shannon C. Stewart  
Environmental Specialist – KEC-4

CONCUR:

/s/ Thomas McKinney  
Thomas C. McKinney  
NEPA Compliance Officer

DATE: 10-07-04

Attachments:  
NEPA Compliance Checklist

cc: (w/ attachments)  
Ms. Sheri Sears – Colville Confederated Tribes